

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

In the reply filed 09/29/2008, the Applicant requests the Examiner to consider the U.S. Publication 2008/0223486 document and the WO 2006/125566 document. The Examiner notes that to be given consideration, the noted documents must be listed in a filed information disclosure statement (IDS). As such, the noted documents have not been considered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. James F. Herkenhoff on 02 October 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, lines 15-16, the phrase "the groove being configured to receive at least a portion" has been amended to --the groove receiving at least a portion--.

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: in Figures 2 and 3, material representative crosshatching is to be applied to

the various springs, rings, etc. that currently lack any crosshatching. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAY R. RIPLEY whose telephone number is (571)272-7535. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 1:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on 571-272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jay R Ripley/
Examiner, Art Unit 3679
02 October 2008

/James M Hewitt/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679